

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful consideration of this application. Claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14-16 are currently pending. Claim 1 has been amended, and claims 5 and 13 have been canceled, without prejudice. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,351,996 to Nasiri et al. (“Nasiri”). Claims 5 and 13 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claim 1 is the independent claim, and has been amended solely to expedite prosecution. The Applicants respectfully submit that Nasiri does not anticipate claim 1 for at least three reasons.

First, Nasiri does not disclose “a support having . . . a thickness, and a recessed seat in the thickness, the recessed seat adapted to receive the entire die,” as recited by amended claim 1. Support for this claim feature can be found, for example, in original Figs. 2-4 of the present application. Nasiri does not disclose the claimed structure. The Office Action aligns the silicon cap 118 and the sensor die 110 of Nasiri’s Fig. 4 with the claimed “support” and “silicon die,” respectively. The Office Action apparently aligns the cavity 120 of Nasiri’s Fig. 4 with the claimed “recessed seat,” as is evident from the Office Action’s citation of Nasiri at column 3, line 35. However, the cavity 120 in Nasiri’s silicon cap 118 is not adapted to receive the *entire* sensor die 110, as recited by claim 1. Instead, Nasiri’s sensor die 110 is bonded atop the silicon

cap 118, and the cavity 120 allows the diaphragm 112 of sensor die 110 (*i.e.*, a portion of sensor die 110) to deflect into the cavity 120 responsive to applied pressure. (*See, e.g.*, Nasiri at column 3, lines 33-36, Fig. 4.) Therefore, Nasiri does not disclose “a support having . . . a thickness, and a recessed seat in the thickness, the recessed seat adapted to receive the entire die,” as recited by amended claim 1.

Second, Nasiri does not disclose that “the recessed seat and the die have the same profile,” as recited by amended claim 1. Support for this claim feature can be found, for example, in the original specification at page 4, line 34 to page 5, line 3; page 6, lines 29 to 31; page 7, line 34 to page 8, line 2; and Figs. 2-4. Nasiri does not disclose the claimed structure. As stated above, the Office Action aligns the sensor die 110 of Nasiri’s Fig. 4 with the claimed “die,” and apparently aligns Nasiri’s cavity 120 with the claimed “recessed seat.” However, Nasiri’s cavity 120 does not have the same profile as the sensor die 120, as shown, for example, in Fig. 4 of Nasiri. Therefore, Nasiri does not disclose that “the recessed seat and the die have the same profile,” as recited by amended claim 1.

Third, Nasiri does not disclose that “said die is integrated into the recessed seat in the thickness of the support,” as recited by amended claim 1. Support for this claim feature can be found, for example, in the original specification at page 5, lines 13 to 15; Fig. 2. Nasiri does not disclose the claimed structure. As stated previously, the Office Action aligns the silicon cap 118 and the sensor die 110 of Nasiri’s Fig. 4 with the claimed “support” and “silicon die,” respectively, and apparently aligns the cavity 120 of Nasiri’s Fig. 4 with the claimed “recessed seat.” However, Nasiri’s sensor die 110 is not integrated into the cavity 120 in Nasiri’s silicon

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cap 118, as claimed. Instead, the sensor die 110 sits atop the silicon cap 118, as shown in Fig. 4 of Nasiri. Therefore, Nasiri does not disclose that "said die is integrated into the recessed seat in the thickness of the support," as recited by amended claim 1.

The Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Nasiri for at least the three reasons demonstrated above. Claims 2-4, 6-12, and 14-16 depend variously from claim 1, and are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

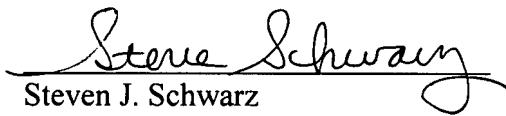
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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